

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 and 26-57 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 10. During a telephone conversation with the Examiner on November 3, 2003, the Examiner indicated that the arguments regarding claim 1 would be reconsidered upon filing an amendment to change the phrase "at least one duct" to "a duct". Due to the amendment of claim 1, Applicant has amended claims 3, 4, 9 and 10 to avoid any antecedent basis errors. Accordingly, entry and consideration of this Amendment, as well as the October 14, 2003 Amendment, are respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 27, 32, 34-37 and 46 are allowed, and claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 16-18, 20, 29, 40-43, 50 and 52-57 contain allowable subject matter, in the July 15, 2003 Office Action.

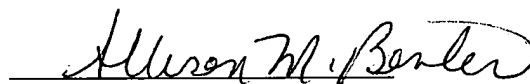
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

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overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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